

**Introduction** – A new "Mini-Series!"

**Addressing issues they were interested in**  
1 Corinthians 7:1a

## FOUR BIG QUESTIONS ABOUT MARRIAGE

### 1. Is Marriage a Good Thing?

1 Corinthians 7:1b  
Genesis 2:18

### 2. Is Paul Forbidding Marriage?

1 Corinthians 7:2

### 3. How can Sex in Marriage be to the Glory of God?

a. *Sex as a means of ministry*  
1 Corinthians 7:3-4

b. *The sin of deprivation*  
1 Corinthians 7:5a

c. *The enemy of our souls will use sexual desire against us!*  
1 Corinthians 7:5b

### 4. If only I could get married, that would solve my problems! Right?

a. *Should I even get married?*  
1 Corinthians 7:25-28

b. *Do you live for the gospel now? Wherever you go, there you are!*  
1 Corinthians 7:29-21

c. *Do you really know what you are getting yourself into?*  
1 Corinthians 7:32-35

d. *What if I think I have the gift of singleness?*  
1 Corinthians 7:36-38

### 1 Corinthians 7:1-5, 25-38

<sup>1</sup>Now for the matters you wrote about: It is good for a man not to marry. <sup>2</sup>But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. <sup>3</sup>The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. <sup>4</sup>The wife's body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife. <sup>5</sup>Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

<sup>25</sup>Now about virgins: I have no command from the Lord, but I give a judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. <sup>26</sup>Because of the present crisis, I think that it is good for you to remain as you are. <sup>27</sup>Are you married? Do not seek a divorce. Are you unmarried? Do not look for a wife. <sup>28</sup>But if you do marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. But those who marry will face many troubles in this life, and I want to spare you this.

<sup>29</sup>What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; <sup>30</sup>those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; <sup>31</sup>those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.

<sup>32</sup>I would like you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs—how he can please the Lord. <sup>33</sup>But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife—<sup>34</sup>and his interests are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord's affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world—how she can please her husband. <sup>35</sup>I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.

<sup>36</sup>If anyone thinks he is acting improperly toward the virgin he is engaged to, and if she is getting along in years and he feels he ought to marry, he should do as he wants. He is not sinning. They should get married. <sup>37</sup>But the man who has settled the matter in his own mind, who is under no compulsion but has control over his own will, and who has made up his mind not to marry the virgin—this man also does the right thing. <sup>38</sup>So then, he who marries the virgin does right, but he who does not marry her does even better.

### Genesis 2:18

The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

**Application** – "Have you bought the wrong bill of goods re: marriage?"